

The FCC must act to prevent Sinclair Broadcasting's announced intention to interfere in the U. S. Presidential election by airing a partisan, anti-Kerry documentary days before the election. This violates Sinclair's obligation to serve the public interest in exchange for FCC licensing to use the public airwaves.

If Sinclair Broadcasting persists in its intention to air this biased film prior to the election, I expect that the FCC will enforce the law to its fullest extent to punish this media corporation's violation of the terms of its license. As a citizen of this democracy, I expect the FCC to do its regulatory duty in this and any case in which the media infringes its bounds to undermine free elections in this country.

This abuse of public trust is an example of the dangers of media consolidation. Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve a conscientious and public review process in which serious scrutiny is given to the applicant's performance while licensed by the FCC. Thank you.